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SOURCE Ch'un-chung Jih-pao.IMPROVEMENT IN RUSSIAN-KAZAKH RELATIONS IN SINKIANG

According to reports made to the fifth plenary session of the Northwest Military and Administrative Committee, held 29 April - 3 May 1952, "bad relations" between the Soviets and Kazakhs in the border city of Ho-erh-kuo-ssu, Sinkiang, have disappeared following the inauguration of the antidespot and rent-reduction movements.

This was revealed in an article published in the Sian Ch'un-chung Jih-pao, 5 May 1952, summarizing the progress of land reform and rent reduction in the Northwest provinces. The article was based on reports submitted to the Northwest Military and Administrative Committee by the chairmen of the provincial governments of Kansu, Ninghsia, Shensi, and Kansu, and by Chang Pang-ying, a committee member who reported on Sinkiang.

According to Chang Pang-ying, the Russians and Kazakhs would not sit at the same conference table last September when a government work team arrived in Ko-erh-kuo-ssu to launch the antidespot and rent-reduction programs; but this situation was changed after they were taught the meaning of mutual aid and co-operation among the nationalities.

Pertinent portions of the article relating to Russian-Kazakh relations are given below:

The rent-reduction and antidespot movements have been basically completed and have achieved great results among the 4 million people of the Sinkiang agricultural areas and among the 300,000 people in the five agricultural hsien of Tsinghai after 7½ months of work that started in September and October 1951.

After the rent-reduction and antidespot movements had greatly weakened the fleecing feudalistic elements and destroyed the overbearing attitude of the land-lord class, the peasants of the various nationalities obtained great economic benefits; their political and class consciousness was elevated; their unity was strengthened; and a good basis for carrying out land reform was laid.

- 1 -

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According to statistics, 70 to 80 percent of peasants in the Sinkiang areas carrying out rent-reduction have achieved great results and have been able to increase their production. On the average, each family harvested 300 to 400 catties of wheat this year; the largest single harvest was 20,000 catties.

In the past, the relations between the Russians and Kazakhs living in the second ~~haimeng~~ of the fourth sh'u in Ho-erh-kuo-si were bad. When the government team arrived, the two groups would not voluntarily sit at the same conference table. After they were inculcated with the class concept of "peasants of all nationalities belong to one family" and with the principles of unity, mutual aid, and cooperation among the nationalities, they not only held conferences together, but acted as one in their struggle. Moreover, like one big family, they strove to increase production.

With the struggle for rent reduction and the struggle against the despots carried out victoriously, production activities among the peasants increased, and simultaneously they requested participation in political and cultural studies.

All the minority nationalities, with absolute sincerity support Chairman Mao, the party, the Central People's Government, and the People's Liberation Army. People everywhere praise Chairman Mao. In the large farming villages you can hear students of various nationalities in the schools singing in their own dialects songs in praise of Chairman Mao.

One of the universally popular songs in Sinkiang goes like this: "Take the trees under heaven and make them into pencils; take the leaves of the trees and make them into paper; take the people under heaven and make them authors who will write endlessly of the graciousness of Chairman Mao."

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- 2 -

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